

2020 Blue Ridge Relay response to COVID-19 (June 15, 2020)

1. The 2020 BRR response to COVID-19 posted on April 15, 2020 is still applicable. What follows are a few updates.
2. Let's Run! September 11-12, 2020... We continue to work on plans for 2020 BRR. Of course we continue to monitor updates from the Governors' Offices of North Carolina and Virginia, USATF, RRCA and CDC.
3. BRR Cap: We are not at cap and we are not near cap. We expect and are planning for a smaller field, which should be beneficial to minimize/eliminate crowding at EZ, especially at transition zones.
4. BRR Guidelines: We continue to revisit and modify our plans to host BRR as scheduled, with the greatest concern/focus on runner and community volunteer safety. We're evaluating our options and have had a brief discussion with the regional health department. We (BRR staff and the regional health dept.) are planning a more in-depth meeting to discuss our plans and to gain their insight/guidance. After our meeting with the health dept. our guidelines will be emailed to BRR captains and posted on our website. I remain hopeful that we can make this work. I'm confident we can keep the field spread and therefore minimize/eliminate crowding. At this time, I believe that the greatest concern will be the comfort of 6 runners in one van. A pre-BRR temperature check and maybe even testing may be required.
5. Alternate Date...If we see the need to postpone to October 16-17, 2020, we'll make that decision between July 16 and August 3.
6. Refund... If BRR continues as planned and your team is not comfortable running because of COVID-19, then we will extend the option of a refund.

However, as posted earlier, I appeal to your team to not accept a refund in whole or part to support BRR staff and/or BRR community groups. BRR is a year-long event for teams as you recruit, train, plan, etc... BRR is also a year-long event for your BRR staff. Much time and expense has already been incurred in the planning and preparation for 2020 BRR, and it will continue up to race date. Blue Ridge Endurance is a small business and it's always a joy to host BRR teams/runners. In addition, we're thankful that BRR can have big impact in our small mountain communities. We can't offer curbside service, can't open our doors when the current health crisis abates, etc... Our time and financial investment is to host 2020 BRR.

As our attention remains on the current health crisis, we continue to pray for those whose health and families have been impacted. We hope for a restored tomorrow.

Thank you for running with us. You are greatly appreciated. Hoping to see you at The Start!

Kind regards,
Ken Sevensky, BRR Director